

Duke, Daphne

254208

**From:** Gates, Nina  
**Sent:** Monday, January 19, 2015 7:20 PM  
**To:** Duke, Daphne  
**Subject:** Fwd: CEOs Letter Support for Uber  
**Attachments:** Uber.Open.Support.Letter.2015.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nate DaPore <[Nate.DaPore@peoplematter.com](mailto:Nate.DaPore@peoplematter.com)>  
**Date:** January 19, 2015 at 11:28:49 AM EST  
**To:** "[contact@psc.sc.gov](mailto:contact@psc.sc.gov)" <[contact@psc.sc.gov](mailto:contact@psc.sc.gov)>, "[cdscott@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:cdscott@regstaff.sc.gov)" <[cdscott@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:cdscott@regstaff.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Hall@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Hall@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Hall@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Hall@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Whitfield@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Whitfield@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Whitfield@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Whitfield@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Howard@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Howard@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Howard@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Howard@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Elam@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Elam@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Elam@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Elam@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Randall@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Randall@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Randall@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Randall@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Fleming@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Fleming@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Fleming@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Fleming@psc.sc.gov)>, "[Commissioner.Hamilton@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Hamilton@psc.sc.gov)" <[Commissioner.Hamilton@psc.sc.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Hamilton@psc.sc.gov)>, "[bakerc@charleston-sc.gov](mailto:bakerc@charleston-sc.gov)" <[bakerc@charleston-sc.gov](mailto:bakerc@charleston-sc.gov)>, "Ernest Andrade ([ernest@charlestdigitalcorridor.com](mailto:ernest@charlestdigitalcorridor.com))" <[ernest@charlestdigitalcorridor.com](mailto:ernest@charlestdigitalcorridor.com)>, "[Beth.webb@gov.sc.gov](mailto:Beth.webb@gov.sc.gov)" <[Beth.webb@gov.sc.gov](mailto:Beth.webb@gov.sc.gov)>, "[Bhitt@sccommerce.com](mailto:Bhitt@sccommerce.com)" <[Bhitt@sccommerce.com](mailto:Bhitt@sccommerce.com)>  
**Cc:** "[complaints@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:complaints@regstaff.sc.gov)" <[complaints@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:complaints@regstaff.sc.gov)>, Grier Allen <[gallen@boomtownroi.com](mailto:gallen@boomtownroi.com)>, "Kevin Eichelberger ([kevin@blueacorn.com](mailto:kevin@blueacorn.com))" <[kevin@blueacorn.com](mailto:kevin@blueacorn.com)>, "Adam Witty ([awitty@advantageww.com](mailto:awitty@advantageww.com))" <[awitty@advantageww.com](mailto:awitty@advantageww.com)>, "[Vwooten@sccommerce.com](mailto:Vwooten@sccommerce.com)" <[Vwooten@sccommerce.com](mailto:Vwooten@sccommerce.com)>  
**Subject:** CEOs Letter Support for Uber

All –

Please see the attached letter from the CEOs of Advantage Media Group, Blue Acorn, BoomTown, and PeopleMatter in support of Uber. We kindly request your review of the attached letter.

Regards,

Nate

**Nate DaPore**

President and CEO

PeopleMatter

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# In Support of Uber

Uber is critical to our community. Restore service.

January 19, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Halley, Governor State of South Carolina

The Honorable Joseph Riley, Mayor City of Charleston

Executive Director, C. Dukes Scott, Office of Regulatory Staff

Chairwomen, Public Service Commission - Nikiya Hall - District 6  
Vice Chairman, Public Service Commission - Swain E. Whitfield - District 5  
Commissioner, Public Service Commission - John E. Howard - District 1  
Commissioner, Public Service Commission - Elliott F. Elam, Jr. - District 2  
Commissioner, Public Service Commission - Comer H. Randall - District 3  
Commissioner, Public Service Commission - Elizabeth B. Fleming - District 4  
Commissioner, Public Service Commission - G. O'Neal Hamilton - District 7

Governor Haley, Mayor Riley, Executive Director Scott, and Public Service Commissioners –

South Carolina is a wonderful state we all get the privilege to call home for our companies each and every day. One of the many reasons this state is so wonderful is the entrepreneurial spirit that flourishes and the support we as entrepreneurs receive from a state that values progress and makes it easy to do business here. The numerous small and large businesses that make up our state from Advantage Media Group to Blue Acorn to BoomTown to PeopleMatter and countless other businesses like ours create jobs, ensure a very high quality of life, and provide tax revenues for you all to continue to ensure our state moves forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We do this because South Carolina is “Open for Business” and has one of the best entrepreneurial environments in the United States.

We believe you all, as leaders of our state and community, are one of the primary reasons we get this opportunity each day to thrive in our state and attract new entrepreneurs like ourselves to start businesses here. As a state that prides itself as being “open for business” and placing a huge emphasis on being a business friendly environment, the recent decision to halt the ridesharing app Uber was a terrible message you sent that is counter to our states progressive thinking. We call on you to immediately restore ridesharing and specifically support Uber in our state. The decision by the ORS and PSC to halt service without public input and allowing Uber to put forth their case is shocking and sends a terrible message to the business community here in the state, future companies that may relocate here, and consumers. The message you are sending is South Carolina is “Closed for Business”.

Here in Charleston, our region is exploding with growth. We are now one of the fastest growing MSAs in the US and the density of people continues to grow in a very limited geographic area. Our mass transit in the area and the current infrastructure of our roads is inadequate for the future growth we have coming our way. Ridesharing apps like Uber are something the state desperately needs to support the growth, safety of transportation, and options for consumers. Ridesharing will help ease some of the pressure our road infrastructure is feeling today.



The taxi industry will continue to thrive right alongside of Uber just as it has in numerous cities throughout the United States. Our transportation laws are outdated and need desperately to be overhauled to keep pace with the 21<sup>st</sup> century technology ridesharing apps offer. Consumers and businesses need choice and deserve to be offered a safe, reliable, alternative.

We call on you now to act and support ridesharing and specifically Uber. All of us stand in support of Uber and look to you, our public service leaders, to ensure this valuable and needed service is not stopped. Help keep our state "Open for Business" and reaffirm the message that South Carolina is a state that values entrepreneurship and progress.

With highest regards,

Nate DaPore  
President and CEO  
PeopleMatter

Grier Allen  
President and CEO  
BoomTown

Kevin Eichelberger  
President and CEO  
Blue Acorn

Adam Witty  
Founder & CEO  
Advantage Media